



## Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271  
<http://dnr.state.il.us>

Pat Quinn, Governor  
Marc Miller, Director

October 6, 2009

Mr. Brian D. Schumaker  
Wendler Engineering Services, Inc.  
698 Timber Creek Road  
P. O. Box 486  
Dixon, IL 61021

RE: **General Mills Parking Expansion, Belvidere, Boone County  
Endangered Species Consultation Program  
EcoCAT Database Review #1002771**

Dear Mr. Schumaker:

Thank you for submitting this proposed action in Section 25, Township 44 North, Range 3 East, for consultation in accordance with the *Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act* [520 ILCS 10/11], the *Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act* [525 ILCS 30/17], and Title 17 *Illinois Administrative Code* Part 1075.

The proposed action, expansion of the secured parking area into newly-acquired property, is located only a short distance from the Kishwaukee River Illinois Natural Areas Inventory (INAI) Site. Without proper precautions, it is the biological opinion of the Department that expanded parking is likely to adversely modify the Kishwaukee River INAI Site through degradation of water quality, both chemically and thermally. However, expansion of the parking area offers opportunities to address the adverse environmental consequences of current parking arrangements, as well as those of an expanded parking area.

Please complete and return the enclosed Detailed Action Report, along with any information you deem pertinent to an evaluation of potential environmental consequences of the proposed action.

The principal threats to the Kishwaukee River posed by an expanded parking area are related to automotive fluids and chemicals (ethylene glycol and propylene glycol, gasoline and diesel fuel, hydraulic fluids, road salts) and thermal pollution (elevated temperatures due to solar heating of the parking surface).

These impacts can be minimized or avoided by the use of best-management practices such as pervious pavement, oil-grit separators, bio-swales, rain gardens, landscaping with native plant

species, use of shade trees, and a wet-basin storm-water management facility with a submerged outlet structure. These and/or other methods can be employed alone, in combination, or in series, to reduce adverse effects to water quality in the Kishwaukee River.

Once we receive the Detailed Action Report, the Department will make recommendations about the proposed action to the City of Belvidere in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Administrative Rule cited above.

Also, please note that the Illinois Lists of endangered or threatened species are currently proposed for revisions which may be finalized this year. This review did not use any data pertaining to species proposed for listing which may be present in this vicinity. (In this area, only the Smooth Softshell Turtle, Ornate Box Turtle, and Mudpuppy Salamander may potentially be present. Nor can our data base guarantee that no other listed species are present in the vicinity; consultation using EcoCAT is not a substitute for proper on-site evaluation of the proposed action.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions pertaining to this review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Keith M. Shank". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "K" and "S".

Keith M. Shank  
Division of Ecosystems and Environment  
[keith.shank@illinois.gov](mailto:keith.shank@illinois.gov)  
(217) 785-5500

cc: Adam Tegen, Belvidere-Boone County Planning Department